

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1905

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second-

Subscriptions by Mail. Postpaid. DAILY, Per Month..... DAILY, Per Year..... SUNDAY, Per Year, DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month Postage to foreign countries added.

Published by The Sun Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York. If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for

publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send glamps for that purpose.

For Republican State Conventions.

The Ohio Republican State convention meets in May. The Hon, CHARLES DICK, the junior Ohio Senator in Congress, is reported as saying that the Ohio Republicans will at that time proclaim their opposition to the principles of the

Esch-Townsend bill. Mr. Dick may not have said so; and his estimate of Ohio Republican opinion as to the regulation of railroad rates and the extension of the powers of the Interstate Commission may or may not be correct. It is desirable that the Ohio Republican convention and every other Republican State convention should speak plainly as to this matter and other important policies. Mr. Roosevelt's opinions are well known. How far are in European politics; for the latter rôle | which have a little flavor of "division and they personal? To what extent are they shared by Republicans?

The House of Representatives of the Fifty-eighth Congress passed the Esch-Townsend bill in double quick time, knowing that the Senate would not pass it. The members must have supposed that there was a wild wave of popular ardor for Government regulation of railroad rates. Where is that popular ardor? What proofs of it, even what signs of it, can be shown? A few Legislatures, "butting in" after their manner, approved. They had no order from their constituents to do so. They jumped at the conclusion that rate regulation was

popular. Is it? There is much simulation of enthusiasm for it among the Democrats, because they hope to "put" the Republicans "in a What is the prevailing Republican opinion? The Republican conventions must say.

Possibly Republican politicians have found already one class of persons not enamored of rate regulation. The railway employees don't understand how you are going to put down rates with- | by inflicting upon her a grave loss of out putting down wages.

Our Dereifet Island.

Hawaii, Alaska, the Philippines, Panama and even Santo Domingo and Cuba, are all in greater or less measure under the care and charge of some department or bureau in Washington. There is some one to whom it is possible to go with a case or a claim, a protest or a petition, concerning interests in almost any country in the world-except Porto Rico

This fact found illustration a few days ago when the secretary of the American Federation of Labor, acting in behalf of that organization in our forgotten island, sought some door in Washington through which he could carry meetings of Porto Rican strikers. With the merits of Secretary Morrison's particular grievance we are not immediately concerned. But he wandered, as others have about other matters, from department to department, from bureau to bureau, to find some one who was in any way responsible for affairs in Porto Rico, only to tote his little bundle home again undelivered because there was none to whom he might confide it.

No department is either foster father or guardian of Porto Rico. It is outside the pale of the War Department, the State Department, and the Interior Department. The Navy Department, the Treasury, the Department of Agriculture, acknowledge no responsibility for it, and even the Department of Justice is a bit shy on Porto Rican matters. The Senate has a standing committee on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico, but the House has washed its hands of the place beyond voting a desk and a chair for the occupation of a resident commissioner. The Apaches and the Oneidas and all other brands of native red men have a bureau in the Department of the Interior. The Moro, the Tagal and the Visayan have the Bureau of Insular Affairs in the War Department. But the Porto Rican has no administrative haven

wherein to anchor his craft. As far as Washington is concerned, the verdant and sun kissed island is a

We pointed out some time ago that if FREDERICK the Great, whose cynicism was revealed unmistakably by the seizure of Silesia and the partition of Poland, were living to-day he would doubtless recognize in Russia's humiliation and exhaustion an opportunity for his own aggrandizement. It begins to look as if WILLIAM II., coveting the laurels of the greatest of Prussian sovereigns, may seek to vie with him in astutehess and rapacity.

It is evident from the attitude of the German semi-efficial press that the hope has been caressed in Berlin that the Kamranh Bay affair, even if it did not drag France and England into the Far Eastern war, and thus compel them to waste their resources in a needless conflict, will have one of two results, either of which would be likely to promote

German interests. It might, on the one hand, be expected that if France should fulfil a neutral's duty by demanding peremptorily the immediate withdrawal of Rojestvensky's do not even consider, as a rule, the facts fleet from French territorial waters-he arrived on April 14, or, as the Japanese allege, on April 12, and he did not leave until April 22-she would exasperate the Russian sovereign and his people, and thenceforth the dual alliance would be

virtually non-existent.

the squadron under NIEBOGATOFF, she would so exasperate Japan's British ally legislation regarding railway rates. that the cordial understanding recently established between France and England raust give way to distrust and enmity.

Fortunately, although Russian newsto express indignation at the notion that ROJESTVENSKY was not at liberty to make as free use of an ally's harbors at the present critical conjuncture as he made in the remote waters of Madagascar, Count LAMSDORFF, the head of the St. Petersburg Foreign Office, perceived that it was not Russia's interest, in her own hour of weakness, to isolate her French ally by depriving the latter of England's friendship, and thus leave the whole European Continent at the mercy shareowners select under the laws, and of Germany. It were better for the ROMANOFFS that ROJESTVENSKY's fleet shall be reasonable and exempt from just should be sunk than that Germany should | criticism; and, when the rates are pubacquire Russian Poland, or the Czar's lished, that those shareowners do not German speaking Baltic provinces, or wish them to be departed from till they that by a seizure of Holland, and per- have been lawfully changed. The prehaps of Belgium also, she should upset permanently the balance of power in are unlawful rebates and discriminations Europe. Even if Russia must renounce the hope of ascendency in the Far East, the interests and wishes of the majority she may still have a great part to play owners of the property by methods it behooves her to keep a sharp eye on silence.'

Berlin.

When an order to leave Kamranh Bay at once was transmitted from the Czar himself to ROJESTVENSKY one of the plans attributed to Emperor WILLIAM was disconcerted. Evidently France and England would not be drawn into the Far Eastern war, nor would their friendly understanding be in any degree disturbed. There remained the alternative scheme of so manipulating the Morocco incident as either to humiliate France or to provoke her to assume a position which would give the German Empire a pretext for attacking her. It was patent that if President LOUBET and Premier ROUVIER could be browbeaten into consenting to refer the Morocco question to an international conference, M. DELCASSE, the best Foreign Minister that France has had for many years, would be forced to resign, and France herself would have to forego her long cherished desire of ascendency in Northwest Africa. By robbing France of her most faithful and efficient servant, I Do the Most Good?" He runs like a prestige, and by shutting her out from a tempting field of territorial expan- gain. What is best for the State? What sion, the Kaiser might justly feel that he would have treated France as a suzerain treats a vassal disposed to show signs of independence.

should retain the French Foreign Office, as he has been prevailed upon to do, and, while declining to submit the Mo- are laid only to give the people the chance rocco question to an international conable assurance that German interests Graft is a thing unknown. Successive should not suffer from the Anglo- Legislatures vie with one another in the French agreement, the Berlin Govern- noble competition for the prize of civic ment, by refusing to negotiate on the virtue. The interests of no part of the the Senate and expelled or otherwise punsubject, might intimate that it had a State are sacrificed to those of any other ished. But suppose he pleads legislative serious grievance, and might cause a part. Business energy is not fined and custom and privilege? As a board of exfeeling of great uneasiness in European fettered. The most excellent govern- pert political economists and general regucapitals as to what course it might pur- ment for all is the constant aim. sue to recoup itself in some other quarter for its pretended loss of privileges in voices are heard. They come from men Morocco. Under such circumstances, if whose mentality has not kept pace with Russia's last hope of winning control of modern progress, who are not touched the sea should perish with the destruction of Rojestvensky's fleet, the German | bany and Newburgh. Emperor might hold the moment opportune for putting his formidable battalions to some profitable use.

It is earnestly to be wished, however, that Emperor WILLIAM would bethink himself that if FREDERICK II. were remembered only as the ravisher of Silesia and the partitioner of Poland he would not have deserved the epithet of "Great." If he holds an illustrious place in history it is not due to his acts of aggression, but to his splendid achievements in the defense of his country against tremendous odds in the Seven Years' War.

Do Railway Directors Direct?

If President TUTTLE of the Boston and Maine railway system was correctly reported as testifying in Washington that no railways had been chartered by Congress, the Union Pacific and Northern Pacific, to which franchises were given by the Federal Government some forty years ago, had for the moment escaped his attention. What was then enacted by Congress regarding fixing rates may bear upon the question which the Senate committee is now considering.

It may perhaps be fairly tenable that under the Union Pacific charter Congress can act till that charter has been amended, and can interfere with the rates fixed by the directors of the road, unless the net income to be applied to dividends shall exceed 10 per cent. on the share capital. The Northern Pacific charter seems to put the rate fixing power absolutely in the hands of the directors so long as the original document remains unchanged.

Probably those two charters are to be taken as an indication of the general opinion of the country regarding the hands into which the rate fixing power was to be placed, subject of course to the common law which made the reasonableness of the rates demanded by common carriers, and fixed by themselves. always revisable by the judicial power when complained against; but the courts could only decide whether or not the rate was a reasonable one.

The testimony recently given before the Senate committee, if it has been accurately reported, tends to show that directors do not now establish rates, and on which the reasonableness of published rates depend.

Mr. MORAWETZ and President TUTTLE did not, on that point, leave any doubt so far as concerned the great railways they represented before the Commission. The existing usage in those companies is

mendacious pretext-such as that any direct voting, to choose directors, who whose State the mule has brought interpoint exists in the outer or inner harbor select a president, and he appoints traffic of Kamranh Bay which is more than agents, who fix rates, make rebates and three marine miles from the shore, or discriminations, with or without previous that the Saigon authorities are practi- consultation with him. That process cally powerless to enforce compliance may, or it may not, be a faithful execuwith international law-should suffer tion of the power reposed by Congress ROJESTVENSKY to remain in a French in the directors of the Northern Pacific be taken as a fair example of State

Whether or not the modern execution by railway directors of the important trust conferred on them by law has anything, or much, to do with the prevailing papers were allowed by the censorship discontent with published railway rates, rebates and discriminations, is one of discover. At the present moment it | market. appears plainly enough in the testimony that railway directors do not personally direct in such matters as the Northern Pacific charter contemplated forty years

It is to be assumed that railway shareowners desire that the rates published or authorized by the officials whom the who thereby become Government officers, sumption, therefore, must be that if there they must come to pass in violation of

It is to be hoped that future testimony before the Senate committee will illuminate this branch of the subject.

One Grand, Sweet Song.

The balmy breath of spring and youth and hope is blown from these sweet words of the Albany Journal:

" Men whose mentality has kept pace with modern progress, who keep in close touch with the world's doings, who are alive to the duty which as citisens they owe to the communities in which they live and to their country, recognize that politics is what men make it, and therefore it follows logically that the better the men who take part in practical politics, the better its quality must be,"

The better the men, the better the politics. That is why the politics of the Republican organization of New York State is, and for some years has been, so much better than good, "What is there in this for me?" the common, unregenerate, low toned politician asks. The motto of the honored leader of the New York Republicans is: "How Can greyhound from the slightest suggestion of personal advantage or pecuniary do the people want? By pondering and had gained a great moral victory. He answeri g these questions he has secured and points with pride at what the insurance companies call "past results"; and he keeps on unweariedly in the

If, on the other hand, M. DELCASSE paths of rectitude and high endeavor. State expenditures are kept down, Extravagance is discouraged. Taxes of showing their grateful appreciation ference, should offer to give any reason- of the merits of the State Government.

> It may be true that a few grumbling by the grand, sweet song heard at Al-

The Bronx County Bill.

Each year the residents of Bronx borough appeal to the Legislature to pass a bill erecting that territory into a county, and, although so far the plan has attracted but little attention, its promoters believe that in time they will have success. The Bronx has an area greater than Manhattan, with which it composes the present county of New York. Its population is estimated at over 320,000. This is increasing rapidly, and its growth in the next few years will unquestionably be great. Even now its population and the assessed valuation of its property exceed those of Richmond and Queens counties combined. Only two counties in the State had a population in 1900 as great as The Bronx, excepting rays on New York, of which the borough forms a part. These were Erie and Kings.

In support of the plan for the erection of the borough into a county it is pointed out that at present no legal action involving over \$500 can be tried within its territory, and no judicial sale of property in partition or foreclosure can be held therein. The 320,000 persons living there have no courts higher than magistrates' and justices' courts, and all of trates' and justices' courts, and all of the brutal indifference to consequences that their more important litigation must be decided in the already overcrowded courts of New York county, situated in Manhattan. This causes inconvenience and loss of time to litigants, lawyers, witnesses and others interested in legal causes. Another cause of complaint is that the county offices are all in Manhattan, The Bronx helping to pay for their maintenance "without securing

the benefits" within the borough. Many citizens of The Bronx believe that they could exercise a much greater influence in political matters than they now do if they could cut loose from New York county. Under the present conditions Bronx delegates count only as members of the New York county delegation in State and district conventions, liable to be bound against their wills by the unit rule to actions which they do not approve. With a county government of their ewn build up a machine strong enough to place them in a position to demand

consideration. While The Bronx has many reasons for wishing to be made a county, the opposition to the project is general in Manhattan, and until this is overcome the plan is unlikely to be carried out.

The sun never sets on any land where the American mule is not at work. At If, on the par hand, France, on some for the shareowness, by proxy voting and least, such is the claim of Missourians, to | pap the childrens

national fame and local good fortune. Eighty thousand American mules, many if not most of them from Missouri, were shipped to Africa during the Boer war, and now the mules for the work on the Panama Canal are to be forwarded from New Orleans. Local dealers there, it is reported. expect that fully 10,000 will be needed. They haven until he could be reenforced by road, for example, which is probably to are preparing to submit bids, and arrangements are being made to bring in from the plantations as many of the animals as may be needed. A former Assistant Postmaster-General will do the purchasing, and the stimulus of this increased demand is already manifest in Missouri.

The demand for American mules for Cuba, for South Africa, for the Philippines, for Manchuria, and more recently for Panama, the things the Senate committee has to has added to their value in the domestic

000 and of mules \$110,000,000-twice as much

national wealth in hogs as in mules. This

In 1895, ten years ago, by the Department of Agriculture estimate, the value of the hogs in the United States was \$220,000,-

year the estimates are: Hogs, \$283,000,000; mules, \$251,000,000. The American mule has gained recognition slowly. Garlands at county fairs, prizes at agricultural exhibits, and even blue ribbons at live stock shows have not advertised him. Modest merit has won its

own way. Chicago is a hearty town, and Mayor DUNNE'S telegram to Mr. ROOSEVELT has

a hearty Chicago sound: " On behalf of the city of Chicago and its 2,000,000 people, I extend to you the hospitality of this city at such a date as may be convenient to you and subject to your engagement with the clubs of this

A fine cordial invitation; and worthy of

With the permission of THE SUN, but without its further participation in any respect, an enterprising publisher of this town, Mr. ROBERT GRIEB COOKE, has collected and reprinted in book form some of the editorial articles which have appeared hereabouts during a score of years past. The title of the volume, "Casual Essays of THE SUN," indicates well enough the principle of selection; that is, the avoidance of comment and discussion of the more serious sort concerning political, controversial or personal matters that depend for interest upon the daily newspaper's chief function. We do not feel ourselves called upon to express an opinion of the merit of Mr. Cooke's idea that these casual essays constitute literature fit for rescue and preservation for future reference. We are limited by the circumstances to admiration of the enthus asm he has shown in the execution of his project, and to hearty commendation of his excellent taste and judgment in the practical details of arrangement and typography. Yet perhaps it is proper to addas it is certainly gratifying to THE SUN to report-that many of our readers and esteemed contemporaries of the press seem disposed to regard Mr. Cooke as a benefactor and the book as a boon

It is too far ahead to tell anything of issues of men for 1908. There are too many sudden changes in politics for that.—Col. W. J. Beran of Nebraska. Respectfully referred to the Hon. CHABLES WARREN FAIRBANKS of Indiana.

A Wisconsin State Senator, on trial for bribery, testified that much important legislative business is settled in hotels and saloons, and that the \$100 he took for opposing a barbers' license bill was used legiti-mately in buying drinks, cigars and even food. The Wisconsin Senate, apparently refusing to admit the existence of the legislative symposium, known to every sociologist, has acopted unanimously an order requiring this Senator to show cause why he should not be declared in contempt of regulate the price of drinks and cigars, especially the former?

Disappearance of Popular Government. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: A befogged citizen seeks light from THE SUN. In the present condition of the party control in this State it seems to me that we are in fact ruled by an oligarchy and that only the forms of popular government remain. The mortgage tax bill is the latest illus-tration, but only one of many. Our ruler gives his orders, and although all of our city members of Assembly declare their aversion to the measure, yet they register their votes as directed. How does this differ from reputed South American methods except that South American presidents are men more patriotic and purer than Odell? The political control of this great commonwealth is dictated by one man, for his personal advantage

and in violence of the popular will.

How can this state of things be corrected? The votes of the people if changed at the next election so as to bring in the Democratic nominee will only substitute King Stork for King Log. Is not the substance of popular government tending to disnear not only in this State but in others where a party boss is absolute? It is inconceivable that any other than a popular government can find a place in this country or that the American people will surrender their birthright if they know it. But how are the destructive and poisonous tendencies now existing to be eliminated? As Bret Harte's interjocutor asks. "Is civilisation a failure and is the Caucasian played out?" Pray shed your TRUTEFUL JAMES.

NEW YORK, April 22.

Punishment for False Alarm Ringers To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The violent death of Frank, the veteran fire horse of Engine as, adding one more tragic incident to the long list of casualties apparently inseparable from the efficient handling of the fire apparatus in our crowded city, emphasizes the need of drastic measures to prevent the turning in of false alarms. I do not know what the present penalty for this

prompts the deliberate giving of a false fire alarm is a menace to us all, and offenders should be subted to an entirely different kind of excitement from that sought, a punishment that would impress

the most thoughtless minds with the settled con-viction that our Fire Department, the pride of the ity, is not to be tampered with. NEW YORK, April 22. "Extended." To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: All the news-

papers use the expression "extended" when they mean "lengthy" or "long." Thus Mr. and Mrs. Jones wil make an "extended" wedding trip. M. Rouvier had an "extended" conference with M. Delosasé. If the Jonese had started on their trip with the intention of going only as far as Chicago, but went ou to San Francisco, it was an "extended" If M. Rouvier called on M. Delcassé with the ides of having half an hour's talk with him. but stayed three hours, it was an "extended" confer-ence. Please scotch the animal before it gets into our dictionaries with an extended meaning.

New York, Apri 22.

B. P. S.

An Old Newspaper Goes Bravely Out of

From the St. Paul Globe.
On the first day of May the publication of the The Bronx politicians would be able to | St. Paul Globe will be discontinued. The reasons for this passing out of existence of a great daily newspaper after nearly thirty years of active life are purely of a business nature. The Globe will endeavor to maintain, up to its latest issue, the aver enceavor to maintain, up to its latest issue, the aver-age of workmanship and the devotion to principle that have brought to it so many cheering words of appreciative praise. It will then pass out of the life of a community whose business interests cannot furnish the support necessary to a respected and honorable future. For it no other future would have any charm.

The Sports of Up to Date Childhood. First Little Darling—Let's play house. Second Little Darling—All right; who will kidA FEW AMERICAN NAMES.

The second edition of Mr. Gannett's Origin of Certain Place Names in the United States," just issued as a bulletin by the Geological Survey, has 33t pages, and makes a large addition to the funny, the fantastic, the picturesque and the commonplace names that appeared in the first collection. We should include in the commonplace the thousands of names of honest aurghers whose patronymics were embalmed in the town names with the addition of "ville," "ton" and "burg." more than half of the Jeffersons, Hamiltons, and Adamses are called after the illustrious bearers of those names; they commenorate worthy pioneers who founded the settlements.

The Forty-niners who built a tent town in a day were looking for a name when they saw the word "Bakery" painted on a shingle. They spelled the word backward and Yreka is now the county seat of Siskiyou county, Cal. Some Pennsylvanians and Yankees happening to meet on a goodly site decided to stay there, and the village they founded in western New York still bears the name Penn Yan. Anthony's Nose in the Highlands is admired by all tourists on our noble Hudson, but few of them know that the name of the fine mountain commemorates the remarkable protuberance on the face of Anthony de Hooges. Saint Anthony Falls on the upper Mississippi were so named by a French missionary because of the many favors received through the intercession of that saint."

There is no end to the Marys, Margarets, Adas and other names of wives, sweethearts and sisters who were introduced into our geographic nomenclature by their ardent admirers; but there was neither affection, poetry nor imagination in giving to a township in Illinois the name Sublette, simply because the contract for grading that part of the Illinois Central Railroad

was sublet at that place. Montana has a Hellgate River, which was named Porte de l'Enfer by Father de Smet, because when the Blackfeet Indians played the mischief among the settlers they reached them by way of the river. Tradition says that Coney Island received its name from the number of rabbits found there. One day Commodore Perry put into a recess in Lake Erie with his fleet, and the place has ever since been known as Put In Bay. The name Dobbs must be rather uncommon in Sweden, but they say it was a Swede of that name who owned a ferry across the Hudson, hence the name Dobbs Ferry in Westchester.

Our forefathers were in all their glory when they monkeyed with foreign words. The euphorious name of Elsinore, a little city in Riverside county, Cal merely a corruption of the Spanish El S. r, meaning "the gentleman." But the couched the limit at a village in Arkansas, which appears on the maps as Darysaw, the early English transliteration of the French Des Ruisseaux, signifying "of the streamlets."

JERRY BIDDLES.

A Memorial Wreath Laid on the Singer's

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: About two years ago I noticed in an editorial in THE days ago I read an article in your paper, signed by Oscar Crosby, dated April 17, un-Jeremiah Biddles." At that time I was in der the heading, "Observation in Abyssinia," too distant to rush into the arena to the defense of my honored friend. Now that I have returned to my native soil my first task shall be to emblazon the good name of Jeremiah Biddles.

Jeremiah Biddles.

Jerry-I always called him "Jerry," as he called me "Sam"—first swam into my ken some thirty-five years ago, when he and I were freshmen at Columbia College. He was a gentle, retiring lad, spending most of his time in the composition of verse. He endeared himself to his classmates by his casion, whether it was at class day, the funeral of a fellow classman or a beer night. At any collegiate function, sober or gay, Jerry would be sure to be present, ever accompanied by

After leaving college Jerry and I drifted apart for several years, Jerry writing for several magazines, while I entered the glue business in Buffalo. Nevertheless, we constantly corresponded, I in prose, Jerry in the choicest verse. In 1885 I returned to New York and found Jerry in his prime, writing poetry from morn till night. Alas, he could not stand the terrific strain long. Jan. 3, 1887, he, who had promised to indite my "In memoriam," breathed his last.

I do not dare to quote any of Jerry's verses. They are much too good for these benighted days. I simply wish to lay my wreath at his grave, and trust that these lines may cause some of the chosen few to take down from their shelves a worm-catien volume, the "Poems of Jeremiah Biddies." It will well repay a reading.

New York, April 21. apart for several years, Jerry writing for

ell repay a reading. New York, April 21. HOT BLAST FROM A TEXAN. General Denunciation of the Merals of

New Yorkers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUE-SIF: In Dallas, Tex., the finest town in America, we haven't belleved all that we heard about New Yorkers being grafters and cheap skates, but I reckon we'll have to revise our opinions after the exhibition your people made of themselves Saturday. When rain stopped the ball rame Friday afternoon Ban Johnson and Frank Farrell, because they had no rain checks-fine New York business management, that announced that the 12,000 spectate would be admitted free the next day. Johns and Farrell said they put the fans on their honor. Well, the result shows what New York "honor" is, for 25,000 persons jammed into the grounds! The 12,000 grafters who lied their way into the grounds weren't muckers, either. Your baseball expert says: "There was no rough or undesirable element." The crowd was made up of "solid and respectable citizens"—the men who pay fees to policemen for the privilege of breaking your laws, the grocers who sand the sugar, the druggists who substitute diri for drugs, the get-rich-quick opera-tors—all your "solld and respectable" trades and professions were represented. It was a chance for graft, and, true to your instincts, you were out

it is Chicago, where such an exhibition would have been made. There isn't a community in which the residents wouldn't have been ashamed to graft like your "solid and respectable" New Yorkers did Saturday. You did it because with you expediency takes the place of morals and every kind of a game is allowed. The only thing you object to is being caught. You're a swell lot,

The men who lied themselves into the ball park would pick pockets or blow safes if they weren's afraid of detection. Now, I don't wonder your police and other city employees are rotten. They're your servants, and. "Like master, like man." NEW YORE, April 23. ERVAY CORINTIL

The Veice of Nature.

(As heard by a denison of the city.)

A bunch of pleasing scenery When well supplied with breeze, Backed up by cows Inclined to browne And interspersed with trees, Is said to cause enjoyment rare And greatly inconvenience care The babble of an expert brook Within a standard wood, Combined with scales If technically good. Is likewise said to sooths a grough-A fact for which all bards will wouch

Moreover, well constructed hills A calming sight are deemed, And any mass Of uncut grees very much esteemed When, posing as a rural view, It serves to cheer men up when blue. Hence, let me seek poetic charm

In some delightful vale-Tis pleasing, and, I un erstand, Accessibe by rath Away to Nature's warmted bliss (I might as well look into this.)
THOMAS R. TRANSA. THE SCHOOL DESK.

Not One in the World Constructed on Correet Principles.

George M. Gowld, M. D., in the Medical Record. There is probably not a pupit's dask in the world constructed upon correct physiolog principles. Many appreximate, but fail in one or more important particulars. because, with all of the interest, study and invention which have been put into the work, with all that has been written concerning the vertical and slanting handwritings, there has been no understanding of the physiology of dextrality and dextrocularity, no comprehension of the optic problem which controls every posture and act

The wrong to the child began with the be ginnings of pedagogy. Prior to this hand-writing was usually vertical, because without a powerfully dominating necessity no adults, much less the shrewd monks, would have bent themselves to the left and skewed their vellum, tablet or paper at the absurd angle w common with all writers. But when school teaching began it was, of course, in the houses or rooms of adults, and with their tables, benches, forms or stools. No one then dreamed of the peculiar child nature, not even the size of the child's body. Hence, he sat pon a bench or seat too low, or what amounts the same thing at a table too high, for the height of his body, and at about the level of his sternum, neck or chin. When compelled to write he could do nothing at the desk exept by placing his forearm, and even his lbow, upon the table.

Let an adult try to write sitting at a flat table the height of his neck and he will realize the child's predicament. With the arm upon the table there can be no writing accom plished unless the head is canted to the left

upon the table there can be no writing accomplished unless the head is canted to the left, the body also, the paper placed askew, the feet or one foot thrust out to lessen the strain and wrenching of the spine, the pen held at a related abnormal angle and the hand gripping the holder in a fistorted way. All this that the right eye may have an unimpeded view of the space in which the letters are being formed.

Think of the millions of morbidly raised right shoulders, the millions of necks and backs thus wrenched, with all the resultant disease, during the last four hundred years! And still going on!

Moet school desis are without lateral space to the right in which the paper may be placed opposite the right shoulder when the body and head are erect and squarely placed in front of the desk, and not as now in front of the face or chest. This lack of lateral space to the right has always been the unrealized need, and upon securing it the complete establishing of the vertical style of handwriting will depend, as also the rescue of the child from the bad postures and ill health caused by the diabolic head tilting, right shoulder elevating, eye ruining, body bending, pelvis cramping, spine twisting, scoliosis provoking postures which have come down to our times. It will be useless to demand of the child that he shall write vertically, sit vertically, place the paper soughly and not askew, and opposite the median line of the body. No human being can write in that way unless the penholder is held with the rip directed toward the northeast, or upper right corner of the paper, or even toward the north, all sure to produce writer's cramp or other evil results in a short time. In former times, as we know, the children were crowded together side hy side so that it was impossible to place the paper opposite the right hand side of the body and keep the body and head erect. The high desk united to compel the arm to be rested upon the desk, the right side to be turned toward it, the left side away from it, the head and body bent ography

ABYSSINIA'S FUTURE.

Opportunity for a Great American Trade With Menelik's People. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir! A few

Cape Town, Cape Colony, and I felt that I was and while I agree on some points with Mr. Crosby, I would like to call his attention this point, that in the last five years conditions in Abyssinia have some way changed. I left New York Nov. 22, 1901, and arrived

last week from a trip to that country. traveled the road by way of Jibutil, Direb-Daouah and Harar, to Addis Abeba, through the Abyssinian Alps, and returned by the way of the Desert of Dankali, and had an opportunity to study the country from the third side.

third side.

Mr. Crosby is mistaken when he says that the railroad runs up to Harar. The terminal station of the Ethiopian railroad is Direh-Daouah, which city was founded about two years ago, and is now the finest built city of Abyssinia, situated at the distance of 306 kilometers from Jibutil. This railroad is really in a struggling condition, not en account of lack of material for transportation, but on account of by a management. The

really in a structure condition, not en account of lack of material for transportation, but on account of bad management. The railroad should be brought up to Addis Abeba in order to become a paying asset. With the railroad brought up from Direh-Daouah direct to Addis Abeba, via the Desert of Dankali, Harar will some day disappear, and all the raw products of the country will come down to Jibutal.

With the eminion of Mr. Crosby that after the death of King Monelik a troublesome state of affairs will arise in Abyssinia I cannot agree, either, as Ras Mekonnen is slained by all the inhabitants and chiefs to be the successor to King Menelik. The enly trouble that may arise is that the European Powers will contemplate, after the death of King Menelik, dividing the country between themselves. This can easily be avoided by having an American diplomatic representative at Addis Abeba.

I also disagree with Mr. Crosby en the treaty question, as I am firmly convinced that our treaty with Abyssinia is of great importance to our commerce, and while we are not losing our time trying to grab land in Abyssinia, we are and will be the only people who can dominate commerce in that ceuntry. I have studied Abyssinia form different points of view. I have found that not enly do our American manufacturers have a facture there, but that there is an abundance of all kinds of minerals and precious stones, which can easily be worked as soon as the railroad is brought up to the capital.

Some plantations, called school plantations, have been started at Aramalka, in the middle of the Desert of Pankali, and I was really surprised to find the successful results which they have given inside of risk months. I found there all kinds of fruits and trees, including tropical and northern products.

Abyssinia is also very rich in all kinds of precious woods. Under such conditions I cannot agree that the plums of Menelik's trees are overvalued.

precious woods. Under such the precious woods. Under such the plums of Menelik's tre not agree that the plums of Menelik's tre not agree the plums of Menelik's tre not agree the plums of Menelik's tre not agree that the plums of Menelik's tre not agree the plums of Menelik's tre not NEW YORK, April 22.

TAXATION.

Appeal for Funds to Educate Legislators and the Public. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir:

Governor has signed the stock transfer tax bill. The next step is to modify or repeal it. It is doubtful if this next step will be taken by those most interested. There has been a persistent and systematic asitation and education on the subject of taxation for the past twelve years, and the stock brokers have been conspicuously absent. With a few excep-tions they have neither contributed nor expressed any interest whatever, and they are retting exactly what they need as well as

deserve.
The real estate men have taken some interest in the question of taxation. In fact
the Astors were one of the first contributors
to the educational work, and George R. Read
and some other leading brokers have always
displayed an intelligent public spirit on the

and some other leading brokers have siways displayed an intelligent public spirit on the question.

Years ago the New York Tax Reform Association, when we had narrowly escaped a listing bill, recognizing that the same weed that had produced that flower would produce others equally injurious, started to teach the people and cranize the workers in the interests of just and sensible taxation. To the fact that this association has such miserable support, never setting more than \$16,000 a year, is due the passare of this stock transfer tax bill and the danser of the annual morisage tax bill. That these bills are not much worse is to the credit of this association.

There is no use in crying over epit milk, but we might as well learn our lesson now, and as long as there are men who are willing to give their time and persistent energy to the promotion of wise lessistation we ought at least to give them decent support. We are spending now thousands of dollars where hundreds six months are would have been more effective, and if we stop our defensive work either when the immediate danger is passed or after the blow has fallen we shall have to learn our lesson again.

We need a fund of at least \$10,000, which shall be devoted to education and to showing legislators, especially in close districts, that they are courting trouble in their own borders when they attempt to impose further burdens on the processes of trade or production.

New York, April 22.

NEW YORK, April 23. Modern Style. The horse level bath three daughters, But really it is funny, While two of them cry "Givet Givet" The third crice "Tainted moneyt" MUNICIPAL CIRCUS NOW.

Trick Dog in the Same Cage With Hattle, the Trick Elephant,

A performing dog was sent to Director Smith of the Central Park menagerie yesterday morning and he ordered it put in the stall of Hattie, the young trick elephant Hattle eyed the stranger with a good deal of curiosity, as though expecting trouble but her inspection seemed to satisfy her that the dog was not meditating an attack upon

The dog did not concern himself much about the elephant. He had been trained in the winter quarters of a circus to go through various performances with elephants, and before the day was over it was shown that Father Knickerbooker now has a first class little circus of his own. without seats, but with free standing room.

Billy Snyder, the elephant man carried an armful of hay into the stall and threw it on the floor in the corner as a bed for Jerry That was the name of the newcomer, a Boston terrier. He curled up on the bedding and closed his eyes in sleep. The elephant watched him from the opposite side of the enclosure as she swung her trunk from side to side and after a time hunger induced her to approach the sleep-

She wanted the hay and seemed to think it belonged to her. On reaching the corner she gathered a bunch of the hay in her trunk, pulled it out and transferred it to her mouth. The dog felt the disturbance of his bed and moved in his sleep. Down went Hattie's trunk again and wrapped itself about some more hay. In pulling the bunch away the big beast nearly upset Jerry and he sprang to his feet with a growl. In a twinkling he recognized the cause of the disturbance and seized the elephant's trunk in his mouth. He caught it at the small end and just held on to it for

Hattie's ways are those of peace and she was considerably startled by the sudden attack, but made no attempt to use her great strength in reprisal. She let out a great strength in reprisal. She let out a squeal of fright and stood still to see what was going to happen next. The dog let go her trunk without cutting it with his teeth and went back to his bed. The elephant made no further attempt to take the hay and seemed anxious to make friends.

The keeper brought in a bucket of water for the elephant. Jerry walked over to the bucket for a drink and again caught the bucket for a drink and again caught
the elephant's trunk in his mouth and
sent her to the other end of the stall until
he had satisfied his own thirst. The rest
of the day he bossed the pachyderm with
the greatest assurance. The elephant
submitted to all his whims.

In the afternoon Snyder gave a public
performance of the tricks Hattie has learned
and they started to put Jerry through the

performance of the tricks Hattle has learned and then started to put Jerry through the stunts he had been taught to do with other elephants. Jerry first walked about the stall on his fore feet with his hind legs in the air them he got on Hattle's back while she was waltzing. She objected at first. Then Hattle crawled like a baby about the flows and legar followed with his paws and floor and Jerry followed with his paws on a hind foot.

a hind foot.

The most difficult stunt was for the dog to circle about each hind foot as Rattie walked about the enclosure. Hattie had had no training for that and several times the dog had a narrow escape. As the two animals get better acquainted their joint performances will be extended.

BUOYS TO CUT HAWSERS

Since the Towboat Men Insist on Towing With Long Lines.

The 200 fathorn hawsers that are used by ocean going tugs in bringing tows into this port frequently get entangled in the channel and wreck marking buoys hereabouts and carry them out of position, making trouble for pilots and steamship captains and sometimes imperiling the ships themselves.

Capt. Mackenzie, inspector of the Third lighthouse district, which comprises the harbor of New York, thinks that hereafter the towboat men will steer clear of the buovs. The to whoatmen refused to shorten their hawsers after getting inside the Hock. otherwise it would not be necessary to use a new form of buoy, devised by George house station at Tompkinsville. The buoy is of the nun type, with four uprights above the surface supporting the bell. On the outside edges of the uprights are sharp steel teeth that will cut any hawser that

happens to get foul of them.

A hawser is a valuable asset to a tugboat and it is thought that careless pilots will not foul the new buoys more than once. The experimental buoy will be put in place northwest edge of the Romer Shoal

in a few days.

Congress refused to pass a bill compelling the tugboat men to shorten their lines after getting into the harbor, and that is why the lighthouse folks had to protect themselves with the hawser chewers.

OPPOSE FIREPROOF WOOD LAW. Builders and Architects Object to a Section of the Building Code.

Builders and architects of this city are seeking relief from the requirements of Section 106 of the Building Code, which calls for "fireproof" wood in buildings more than 150 feet high, and many of them have addressed letters to Fire Commissioner Hayes asking for his aid.

They assert that in modern buildings ever 150 feet in height the construction is such that very little wood is used-not enough they say to feed a fire. Further they say that fireproof wood, first used in the construction of battleships, has been abandoned by the Navy Department, that ins rance companies do not recognize it as valuable, that wood cannot be perma-nently fireproofed and that the chemicals used in "fireproofing" destroy the strength

Among those who have written to Com Among those who have written to Com-missioner Hayes are the George A. Fuller Company, the Thompson-Starrett Company, Charles T. Wills, Charles A. Cowen, Nor-cross Brothers, V. J. Helden & Son, The Murphy Construction Company of the builders, and McKim, Mead & White, Bruce, Price & Desifour, Francis Kimball and Clinton & Russell of the architects. Letters to the Commissioner are accompanied by detail drawings showing just how little wood is used in modern buildings.

CRIME NOT INCREASING. Number of Prisoners Awaiting Trial Kept Down Under Jerome.

Statistics of the District Attorney's office for the first three years of Mr. Jerome's administration prepared by Chief Clerk Henneberry show that 12,179 indictments were disposed of and that the average number of persons charged with felony in the Tombs each day was 178, the lowest on record. In the three years the county has saved about \$20,000 in maintenance of prisoners by reason of the reduction of this average number. The statistics do not show an increase of crime proportionate to the increase of population. In 1904 87 persons were convicted of homicids. In the last ten years there have been 290 homi-

in 1904 there were 1,889 arrests for violain 1904 there were 1,899 arrests for violations of the liquor tax law. The Magistrates discharged 1,299 prisoners and held 690 for trial. In Special Sessions there were 409 convictions; 170 cases were dismissed by the Grand Jury. In General Sessions with a jury there was not one conviction and but four pleas of suity were entered.

four pleas of guilty were entered Over \$62,000 was collected on forfeited bonds. The fines collected amounted to \$14,525. The "Bureau of Special Sessions Informations" has put a stop to the dismissal of cases on demurrer because of defective complaints drawn in the police

courte